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COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Annual Report

on the

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950

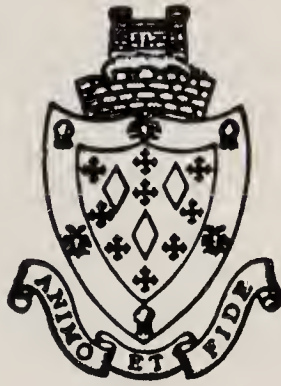
By

J. YULE, M.D., D.P.H.

School Medical Officer

(42nd of the Series)

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT



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STOCKPORT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

at 31st December, 1949

Chairman : Alderman H. Patten, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman J. Randles, B.A.

Aldermen W. R. Fox, J. Pell, F. Sutcliffe.

Councillors J. H. Arden*, F. Bennett, J. Eaton, T. C. Edwards, C. P. Foster, F. Foulkes, Mrs. E. E. Glossop, Mrs. C. S. Grant, F. Hadley, M. L. Hall, A. Hodgkinson, S. Horton, W. C. Knight, Mrs. E. Little, C. Machin, R. Philbin, R. Seaton, J. Stonehewer, A. M. Watson.

Miss D. E. Chambers, B.Sc., Mrs. L. Richmond.

Messrs. H. Bell, M.A., W. H. Edge, H. Hope, C. H. Marsh, M.Com., J. O'Brien, Professor D. Atkinson, Canon B. Bell, P.P., Rev. R. G. Ashman, H. Barlow, C. Smith†.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE, WELFARE AND HEALTH SERVICE SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor J. H. Arden*

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. C. S. Grant

Aldermen W. R. Fox, J. Pell.

Councillors C. P. Foster, Mrs. E. E. Glossop, F. Hadley, Mrs. E. Little, C. Machin, R. Philbin, R. Seaton, J. Stonehewer.

Messrs. H. Barlow, J. O'Brien.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman : Alderman H. Patten, J.P.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman J. Randles, B.A.

Aldermen W. R. Fox, J. Pell.

Councillors C. P. Foster, F. Foulkes, Mrs. E. E. Glossop, Mrs. C. S. Grant, Mrs. E. Little, C. Machin, R. Philbin, R. Seaton.

Mrs. L. Richmond, Mr. J. O'Brien.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

E. Gwyn Thomas, B.A., Ph.D.

* Died—27th November, 1950

† Died—17th August, 1950

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

School Medical Officer :

J. Yule, M.D. Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant School Medical Officer :

S. V. Cullen M.B., Ch.B. (Resigned 30th September, 1950).
W. F. Christian, M.B. Ch.B., D.P.H. (Appointed 1st December, 1950).

Assistant School Medical Officers :

Hilary J. Crewe, M.B., Ch.B.
Stella M. Jones, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O.

Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon :

S. H. Faulkner, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.O.M. & S.

Consultant Aural Surgeon :

G. E. Archer, M.B., D.L.O., F.R.C.S.E.

Senior School Dental Surgeon :

Freda Sellers, L.D.S.

*School Dental Surgeons :**Superintendent of School Nurses :*

Miss Snowdon, S.R.N., S.C.M.

School Nurses :

Mrs. Smith, S.R.N., S.C.M. (resigned 6th May, 1950).
Mrs. Turner, S.R.N.
Mrs. Seed, S.R.N.
Mrs. Moore, S.R.N.
Mrs. Lake, S.R.N., S.C.M. (resigned 29th July, 1950).
Mrs. Rayner, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.
Miss Faulkner, S.R.N. (commenced 9th January, 1950).
Miss Riley, S.R.N., S.C.M. (commenced 15th May, 1950).
Mrs. Stevenson, S.R.N. (commenced 31st July, 1950).
Miss Harker, S.R.N. (commenced 13th November, 1950).

Chiropodist :

J. F. Green, F.Ch.S.

Senior Clerk :

H. Joules.

Clerical Staff :

Miss Lamb (resigned 6th May, 1950).
Miss Hammond
Miss Hookins
Miss Bailey
Miss Chesters (resigned 10th June, 1950).
Miss Fidler (commenced 22nd May, 1950).
Miss Berrell (commenced 24th July, 1950).

SUMMARY OF WORK

A.	Medical Officers at Maintained Primary and Secondary Schools :—	1949	1950
	Periodic Inspections at Primary Schools ..	4,855	5,841
	Special " " " " " " ..	11	11
	Re-Inspections at Primary Schools ..	2,212	2,294
	Periodic Inspections at Secondary Schools ..	1,340	880
	Special " " " " " " ..	5	2
	Re-Inspections at Secondary Schools ..	515	405
B.	Medical Officers at Clinics :—		
	Inspections at Clinics	4,483	4,365
	Re-Inspections at Clinics	6,182	4,966
	Inspections under Employment of Children Bye-Laws	410	399
	Entertainments Certificates issued	2	11
C.	Dental Officers :—		
	Periodic Inspections at Primary Schools ..	6,917	3,338
	Special Inspections at Schools and Clinics ..	2,060	2,620
	Attendances for Treatment	6,876	5,672
D.	School Nurses' Visits, etc.:—		
	Visits to Schools	1,358	1,521
	Examinations in Schools (including cleanliness inspections)	86,585	95,682
	Visits to Homes	1,373	1,255

COUNTY BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT

General Information

	1949	1950
Population	141,300	141,460
Primary Schools—		
Number of Schools	35	35
Number of Departments	51	51
Number on Rolls	13,161	13,639
Schools for Higher Education—		
Girls	3	3
Boys	2	2
Mixed	7	6
Number on Rolls	4,978	4,834
Special Schools—		
Longfield Open-Air School	—	—
Taxal Lodge Residential School for Educationally Subnormal Pupils	—	—
Cost of School Health Service—	1948/49	1949/50
Total Cost (<i>Net</i>)	£18,190	£13,446
Government Grant	£10,914	£7,607
Cost to Rates	£7,276	£5,839
Product of a Penny Rate	£3,616	£3,663
Cost in Terms of a Penny Rate	2.012d.	1.594d.

SCHOOL HEALTH REPORT

*To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee
of the County Borough of Stockport*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my Sixteenth Annual Report as School Medical Officer, which is the 42nd of the Series.

Concern has been expressed in the two immediate previous Reports as to the effect of the introduction of the National Health Service Act, 1946 on the School Health Service. There is no doubt that the priority services for children, such as dental treatment and the provision of glasses, have suffered a serious setback.

It will be observed that we are still in the position we were in a year ago, namely that out of an establishment of four dentists we have only one. The prolongation of this situation must of necessity have the most serious consequences on the dental state of the school children of the town. It is hoped that the recent Whitley Council Award, by improving the salaries of School Dental Surgeons, may assist recruitment.

The position with regard to the provision of glasses has somewhat improved. Towards the end of the year arrangements were made for two additional eye sessions to be held by the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeon to speed up refractions and the provision of glasses, and the waiting period has now been reduced to under two months.

One of the outstanding events of the year was the completion of the Combined School and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic at 32, Heaton Moor Road. This Clinic was brought into use towards the end of the year. It is an all-purpose Clinic providing accommodation on the ground floor for minor ailments, child welfare and ante-natal work. There are two fully-equipped dental suites on the second floor and on the top floor there is provision for a Child Guidance Centre and staff accommodation. This is a substantial and useful contribution to the clinic accommodation provided for the north side of the town.

A perusal of the Report will indicate that a vast volume of painstaking work has been undertaken on behalf of the children of the town.

The nutritional state of the schoolchildren throughout the town remains satisfactory, but the improvement in the number of verminous children found in schools has not been maintained and shows a slight deterioration from the previous year.

An Educational Psychologist was appointed and took up her duties in the Autumn. She conducts a Child Guidance Centre at the new Clinic at 32, Heaton Moor Road. As was indicated in last year's Report, for complete success and effective working this Centre should be linked with the Child Psychiatric Clinic to be established in South Manchester by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board. Diagnosis is not sufficient but must be followed by appropriate treatment and, where necessary, treatment in a special hospital or beds provided for these cases.

In spite of serious endeavours it has been found impossible during the year to obtain the services of a Speech Therapist.

The Clinic for Chiropody, which has now been in operation for over two years, continues to prove an unqualified success. It is not only a treatment centre, but provides useful and valuable education in how to avoid foot defects.

The Service suffered a grievous loss by the untimely death of Councillor J. H. Arden, the Chairman of the Special Sub-Committee which deals with School Health Service matters. During his period as Chairman he had proved himself an enthusiastic and capable administrator.

Dr. S. V. Cullen, Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, left the service of the Committee towards the end of the year to take up the appointment of School Medical Officer to the Isle of Man. He had rendered yeoman service to the Department over a period of four years in the difficult re-constructive post-war period. He was succeeded on the 1st December by Dr. W. F. Christian.

The whole of the Staff has continued to display enthusiasm in the performance of their duties and the standard of efficiency has been high.

A special tribute should be paid in this introduction, to the encouragement and help which the Staff of the School Health Service has received throughout the year from the Teaching Staffs of the Schools.

The Director of Education, Dr. Gwyn Thomas, and his Staff have provided information for inclusion in this Report and I desire to thank him for this and much consideration and help in connection with this special branch of the Education Committee's work during the year.

Finally, I should like to express my sincere appreciation of the courtesy and consideration which has been shown by you, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, to the members of the School Health Service throughout the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

J. YULE,

School Medical Officer.

Town Hall,

Stockport.

March, 1951.

REPORT

I.—STAFF.

(a) General.

Dr. S. V. Cullen resigned his appointment as Senior Assistant School Medical Officer in September to take up the appointment of School Medical Officer in the Isle of Man. During his four years service in Stockport, Dr. Cullen rendered excellent service to the Committee. He was succeeded by Dr. W. F. Christian who commenced his new duties on the 1st December, 1950.

Miss J. B. Bradshaw was appointed in August as Educational Psychologist at the Child Guidance Centre, 32 Heaton Moor Road, Stockport.

Nurse Smith retired on Superannuation from her appointment as School Nurse on the 6th May, 1950, after giving 20 years excellent service to the schoolchildren of Stockport.

II.—CO-ORDINATION.

(a) With General Practitioners.

During the year the School Health Department has maintained good relationship with the General Practitioners in the town. Their co-operation is appreciated.

(b) With Hospitals.

The hospitals in Stockport and in Manchester have continued to see cases referred to them by the School Medical Officers and have furnished reports thereon.

(c) With the Health Department.

Miss Snowden, S.R.N., S.C.M., has continued as Superintendent of the combined Health and School Health Nursing Staffs.

THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE IN RELATION TO PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

III.—SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION AND HYGIENE.

I am indebted to Dr. Gwyn Thomas, Director of Education, for the following information :—

(a) School Building Programme.

Buildings completed and officially opened during the year comprise the Bridge Hall Infants' School, Broadstone Hall Junior and Infants' School, and the Hollywood Nursery School.

Projects in progress during the year include the Bridge Hall Junior School, the Banks Lane and Houldsworth Estate Junior and Infants' Schools, the Didsbury Road Junior School, the Reddish Vale Road Secondary School, and alterations and extensions at the High School for Girls and Heathfield.

Projects approved, and on which work will be started early in 1951, include extensions to the Great Moor Primary School, the Reddish Vale Nursery and Infants' Schools, and adaptations and extensions at the Hempshaw Lane Annexe for the Stockport College.

Work on the adaptation of premises at 32, Heaton Moor Road was completed, and the combined School and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is now in operation.

Improvements have been carried out at Vernon Park Council School, to provide better facilities for combined cookery and laundry classes.

(b) School Meals Service.

Canteen kitchens and Dining Rooms have been provided at Heathfield for the High School for Girls, and for Alexandra Park Council School.

Approval has been obtained from the Ministry of Education for the provision of improved dining facilities at the Stockport R.C. School, the Secondary Technical School for Boys at Pendlebury Hall, and the Stockport College.

(c) Playgrounds and Playingfields.

Work carried out during the year includes the provision of a grass playing pitch at Heathfield for the High School for Girls, a small football or hockey pitch and paved playground at Grafton Street, Heaton Norris, improvements to the grass pitches at Stockport School and Dial Stone Secondary Modern School, and the provision of a paved playground behind the hut accommodation at Longford Road, North Reddish.

Repairs and improvements to the existing playground surfaces have been carried out at the Stockport School, and the Avondale, North Reddish, Hollywood Park, Vernon Park, Alexandra Park, Heaton Moor and Higher Brinksway Schools.

(d) Painting and Decorating.

Following the completion in 1949 of the painting and decorating of all schools and other premises since the termination of the war, a restricted programme of essential work only was carried out during the year 1950.

IV.—MEDICAL INSPECTION.

(a) Age Groups Inspected.

The arrangements for Medical Inspection have continued as in previous years. The three periodic inspections, Entrants, Primary Leavers and Secondary Leavers in accordance with the Education Act, 1944, were carried out. In addition, pupils reaching the age of eight during the current year were also examined.

The new Ministry of Education Medical Inspection Cards were introduced at the beginning of 1948. As anticipated this has resulted in a slight slowing down in the rate of medical inspection.

(b) Statistics of Medical Inspection.

The Statistical Tables relating to the Medical Inspections carried out during the year are shown on page 29. The number of Periodic Medical Inspections carried out during the year was 6,361, compared with 6,195 last year. The number of Special Inspections and Re-inspections was 2,712 which compares with 2,743 last year. It should be noted that these figures indicate all cases examined in maintained primary and secondary schools.

The number of visits to schools by the School Medical Officers for the purpose of carrying out periodical medical inspections was 419.

V.—FINDINGS OF MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The detailed figures relating to the defects found at the Medical Inspections will be found in Table II, page 30.

(a) General Condition of Pupils.

The general condition of each pupil examined at Periodic Medical Inspections was classified by the School Medical Officers into three categories in accordance with the instructions from the Ministry of Education. These categories are—A (Good), B (Fair), and C (Poor). Pupils of normal nutrition have been classified under B and pupils of above average nutrition under A.

It will be seen from Table II.—B on page 31, that out of 6,361 pupils examined in 1950, 1,211 or 19.04 per cent. were classified as A ; 4,969 or 78.12 per cent. were classified as B, and 181 or 2.84 per cent. were classified as C.

All cases of malnutrition are eligible for an extra third of a pint of milk per day, and for “ free meals ” if the income of the parent falls below a certain level fixed by the local Education Authority.

(b) Infestation with Vermin.

It will be observed from Table III, on page 31, that during 1950, 81,445 inspections of pupils were made by the school nurses with the object of improving the standard of personal cleanliness in the schools. This compares with 74,635 inspections carried out in 1949. The special efforts started in 1947 to reduce the incidence of head lice were continued in 1950, but the figures show a slight deterioration when compared with those of last year. Out of a total of 16,372 on the rolls, 2,412 individual children have been found to be unclean. When these figures are compared with those for 1947 when 4,054 children were found to be unclean, it will be appreciated that the general improvement could not have been achieved without much hard work and persistence on the part of the school nurses, and the co-operation of the teaching staffs.

It should be noted that the above figures refer to the total number of inspections made and not to the number of individual pupils inspected.

(c) Dental Defects.

A perusal of Table V, page 34, shows that the Dental Officer devoted 24 half-days to inspection and inspected 3,338 pupils. In addition 2,620 Specials were inspected.

VI.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(a) Immunisation Against Diphtheria—1950.

During the year, immunisation of children of school age has been extremely satisfactory. The total number of children of the ages 5—15 years inclusive, completely immunised was 2,501 (including 2,067 children also immunised in previous years).

It is pleasing to report that the number (18,690) of children of school age (5—15 years) immunised up to the end of December, 1950, was 98.54 per cent. of the children of these age groups in the Borough.

There were no cases of Diphtheria occurring during the year in the school population (18,967 (includes 544 Grammar School pupils)).

Immunisation at Welfare Centres :

Number of children who received 2nd and final injection (including 310 re-inforcing injections) .. 576

Immunisation at Schools :

Number of children who received 2nd and final injections (including 1,687 re-inforcing injections) .. 1759

Number of Schools visited 44

Number of times visited 52

Immunisation by Private Doctors :

Number of completed injections (including 70 re-inforcing injections) 166

(b) Incidence of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total 1950	Total 1949
Scarlet Fever	67	29	10	48	154	230
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery	—	1	—	1	2	—
Typhoid Fever (Para. B.)..	—	—	—	1	1	—
Primary Pneumonia	4	—	—	1	5	5
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	1	—	—	1	1
Measles	—	151	121	177	449	301
Whooping Cough	34	62	26	33	155	78
Poliomyelitis	—	—	4	2	6	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	1	2
Food Poisoning	—	3	2	4	9	—

It is pleasing to record that no cases of Diphtheria occurred in children of school age during the year, as compared with two in 1949.

Scarlet Fever showed a decrease from 230 cases in 1949, to 154 cases in 1950.

449 cases of Measles in children of school age occurred during the year as compared with 301 in the previous year, and Whooping Cough increased from 78 cases in 1949, to 155 cases during 1950.

Of the six cases of Poliomyelitis, one died.

Notification of Food Poisoning became operative in January, 1949. During 1950 there were 9 cases in children of school age.

VII.—FOLLOWING-UP.

(a) General.

Medical Officers, School Nurses, Head Teachers and School Attendance Officers share in the work of following up defects.

The number of visits by Nurses to homes in this connection was 680. In addition, 77 visits were paid to Schools for the same purpose.

Thanks are due to Head Teachers for the personal interest they have taken in the pupils recommended for treatment, and for the efforts made in persuading hesitant parents to accept the treatment offered.

VIII.—ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

(A)—*PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.*

(a) Attendances.

(i) Minor Ailment Clinic (Skin defects and miscellaneous cases)	185
(ii) Eye Clinic	
1. Refractions	17
2. Other abnormal conditions	
(a) Ptosis	1
(b) Nystagmus	1
(iii) Dental Clinic	330

(B)—*SCHOOL CHILDREN.*

(a) Uncleanliness.

Parents whose children are infested with vermin are urged to carry out the disinfestation themselves. If they fail to do this they are asked to attend the Head Cleansing Centre at St. Saviour's First Aid Post, Great Moor, where every facility is provided for the disinfestation of the children. A nurse is in attendance to advise mothers on the most effective way of carrying out the treatment. Motherless children with verminous heads are cleansed by the nurse.

Scalp lotion is always available free of charge at the Central School Clinic and at the Head Cleansing Centre for those parents who need it. Metal nit combs are on sale at the Central School Clinic at cost price. Thus the Authority ensures that parents are put to the minimum expense in carrying out the treatment.

The School Nurses have made 1,444 visits to schools to carry out cleanliness inspections during the year.

(b) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.

(i) Minor Ailments.

The Minor Ailment Clinic at 108, Wellington Road South is open daily and one of the Assistant School Medical Officers is in attendance on Monday morning and afternoon, Tuesday afternoon, Thursday morning and Friday afternoon.

The Reddish Clinic (held at the Reddish Welfare Hut, Stanhope Street, Reddish) is open on Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon. An Assistant School Medical Officer visits the Reddish Clinic on Wednesday mornings.

Attendances at the Minor Ailments Clinics :—

Number of New Cases seen during the year	..	4,365
Total number of attendances during the year	15,423

A medical record is kept of each child. If the child comes from school to the Clinic, he is given a time card for the teacher, with the time of arrival and departure from the Clinic. Should exclusion be necessary an exclusion certificate is issued.

(ii) Scabies Clinic.

During 1950 the treatment of Scabies has been carried out at the Scabies Treatment Clinic at St. Saviour's First Aid Post, Great Moor, the treatment consisting of baths and the use of Benzyl Benzoate lotion. Arrangements are still made for the stoving of bedding and clothing from infected houses, and where any other members of the household are suspected to be suffering with the disease they are invited to attend for treatment.

The number of cases of Scabies which required treatment at the Scabies Clinic during 1950 was very small.

(c) Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.

(i) Ophthalmic Clinic.

The Ophthalmic Specialists attended the Clinic for two sessions per week for the examination of cases of Defective Vision and external eye disease, and for the certification of cases of Blindness and partial sight in school children.

It will be seen from the figures given below that valuable work continues to be done at this Clinic.

	Total	School	Pre-School
Total number of cases refracted at the Ophthalmic Clinics	547	530	17
Number of cases in which spectacles were prescribed	443	430	13
Number of cases in which spectacles were obtained	396	383	13

The treatment of External Eye Disease is carried out at the Minor Ailments Clinic. Severe cases, where hospital treatment is necessary, are referred to the Stockport Infirmary or Stepping Hill Hospital.

Since the introduction of the National Health Service Act the "follow-up" of children who have been refracted at the Clinic has been most difficult, and the delay in the provision of spectacles has entailed further difficulties. Since a number of children are refracted privately by opticians, there is no satisfactory method of checking on such cases.

(ii) Orthoptic Clinic.

This Clinic is now administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

The number of school children referred from the School Clinic and Infant Welfare Centres during the year was 65.

(d) Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.**(i) Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic.**

This Clinic is held each Friday morning at the Central School Clinic, Wellington Road South. A Consultant Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon attends the Clinic weekly, and there is a daily Treatment Clinic conducted by a School Nurse with special experience in the treatment of Ear, Nose and Throat conditions. Children recommended for operative treatment are admitted to Stepping Hill Hospital.

Treatments carried out by Nurses at the Central School Clinic during the year numbered 1,231. The number of children who received operative treatment at Stepping Hill Hospital during the year was 681. The waiting period for operation is now very short having been reduced to 6—8 weeks.

(ii) Audiometric Clinic.

The nurse who assists at the Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic also carries out Audiometer tests on children whose hearing is thought to be defective. 30 children were tested in this manner during the year.

(e) Dental Defects.

During the year a modern dental centre, consisting of two fully-equipped dental surgeries, waiting room, recovery room and office accommodation, was established at 32, Heaton Moor Road.

Unfortunately there has been no improvement in the staff position in regard to the dental department, and throughout the year there has only been one dentist instead of four, to look after approximately 18,000 children.

The number of "casuals" has again increased, from 2,060 in 1949 to 2,620 this year; but these are not all "toothache cases," some are children who do not wait for School Inspection, but come in and ask for conservation and Orthodontic treatment. Once more "casuals" have been kept to attendance at certain times at the Central Clinic, so that other work can be undertaken. No "casuals" are seen at Heaton Moor, but patients attend there by appointment, on two days per week.

School Inspections have had to be curtailed, as it is no use inspecting a School if the children cannot be treated almost immediately. All children attending Special Schools have been seen this year. A large number of pre-school and school children have continued to attend every three months. The number of pre-school children treated shows a slight increase.

A specialist anaesthetist has been appointed this year, and the number of general anaesthetics given shows an increase from 598 in 1949 to 672 in 1950.

Orthodontic work had to be curtailed, and only 43 appliances were inserted and 260 attendances made for inspection and adjustment of appliances. It is hoped to increase the amount of Orthodontic work in 1951, as in December, 1950, it was agreed to send out the Mechanical work to a Dental Laboratory and this will leave more time for chairside work.

Table V on page 34 gives details of the School Inspections and the ordinary forms of dental treatment.

(f) Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

Cases requiring Orthopædic Treatment are referred to the Consultant Orthopædic Surgeon at Stockport Infirmary. Types of cases treated include bone and joint defects, postural defects requiring remedial exercises, and cases requiring Artificial Sunlight Therapy.

The number of children referred for hospital treatment during the year was 130, and the number of children with severe Orthopædic defects admitted to the Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, Marple, was 14.

(g) Heart Disease and Rheumatism.

A Heart Clinic is held once per month at the Central School Clinic. At this Clinic children with suspected organic disease of the heart are kept under observation and are referred to hospital for investigation when necessary.

During the year 160 attendances were made.

(h) Enuresis.

A Clinic is held each Thursday afternoon at the Central School Clinic. Parents attend this Clinic by appointment and are advised how to deal with the troublesome problem of bed-wetting. In suitable cases drugs are prescribed for the children concerned. During the year 399 attendances were made.

(i) Chiropody.

Number of attendances by the Chiropodist	95
„ „ treatments	903
„ „ new patients	117
„ „ cases of Verrucæ	64
„ „ „ „ corns	10
„ „ „ „ contracted or overlapping toes	3
„ „ „ „ ingrowing toenails	9
„ „ „ „ other conditions (flat feet, bursæ metatarsalgia, heloma miliares, onychogryphosis, etc.)	31

Regular re-inspections of patients who have been discharged have been carried out, and no account of these is made in the above figures. It is satisfactory to note that as a result of these inspections there has not been a single instance of the recurrence of Verrucæ. In cases of corrective treatment for overlapping toes the improvement has been maintained. One very interesting point in connection with these cases is that enquiries have confirmed that there is a definite hereditary tendency.

IX.—PROVISION OF MEALS AND MILK.

(a) School Meals Service.

During the year further canteens have been opened at :—

Alexandra Park Primary School
Stockport High School for Girls
Broadstone Hall Road Primary School
Hollywood Park Nursery School

In 1950 meals have been supplied to 69 schools or departments from 24 kitchens.

A return to the Ministry of Education showed that on a given day in October, 61.14 per cent. of the pupils in attendance at Secondary Schools (Grammar and Modern), and 43.3 per cent. of pupils in attendance at Primary and Nursery Schools, had school dinner at the canteens.

The actual numbers were :—

	No. present	No. who had school dinners
Secondary Schools		
(Grammar and Modern) ..	4,705	2,877
Primary and Nursery Schools ..	12,288	5,327
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ..	16,993	8,204
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Of the 8,204 pupils who had dinners, 957 were necessitous children on the free list. On the same day, 84 necessitous children attended various canteens for breakfast.

During the holiday periods throughout the year, arrangements were made to provide dinners for all children whose parents asked for them. Seventeen canteens were opened and children attended the one nearest their home.

(b) Milk in Schools Scheme.

With the operation of the Family Allowances Bill, all children of school age are entitled to participate in the Milk in Schools Scheme free of charge.

Every child can have a third of a pint of milk daily at his or her school during term time, and during school holidays children can have their milk each day at the canteens which are open for dinner.

A return to the Ministry of Education showed that on a given day in October, 58.1 per cent. of the pupils in attendance at Secondary Schools (Grammar and Modern) and 90.4 per cent. of the pupils in attendance at Primary and Nursery Schools, received milk under the Scheme.

The actual figures were :—

	No. present	No. who received milk
Secondary Schools		
(Grammar and Modern) ..	4,705	2,737
Primary and Nursery Schools ..	12,288	11,111
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total ..	16,993	13,848
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Thanks are expressed to all Head Teachers and their staffs for their continued co-operation in the administration of these schemes which entail a substantial addition to the routine work in the schools.

X.—OPEN-AIR EDUCATION.

(a) The Longfield Open-Air School.

This school is situated in Heaton Mersey and provides education on open-air lines for delicate and physically handicapped children. Children are admitted on the recommendation of the Assistant School Medical Officers, following inspection at the Schools or Clinics. Pupils normally remain at this school for at least six months.

Breakfast, dinner and tea were provided for those children attending the school.

Children admitted on account of Nervousness and Debility quickly improve under this regime.

The school is visited each week by the Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, and a School Nurse made frequent visits.

XI.—PHYSICAL EDUCATION.

(a) Physical Training.

In general, there has been continued improvement in teaching method and, to a lesser degree, in the scope of work in the Primary Schools. Greater progress has been made in the Junior Schools and Departments, as conditions in many All-Purpose Schools retard the development of training for Senior girls and boys in particular. There has been a satisfactory increase in the amount of small equipment provided to Primary Schools, and all Secondary Schools have an adequate supply of portable gymnastic apparatus. It is agreed by teachers within the Authority that, despite the difficulty in obtaining suitable furniture to suit each individual child, Posture is good on the average, but in a few schools there is an apparent increase in the number of children with abnormal foot conditions. This problem is now being dealt with.

(b) Remedial Exercises.

Foot and Posture remedial classes are to be developed in schools as and when the need arises, at the discretion of the School Medical Officers. During this year Foot Classes were held at three schools, and Posture Classes at three other schools. Particular attention is being devoted to the Longfield Open Air School to counteract poor Posture amongst children suffering from Respiratory weaknesses.

(c) Organised Games.

The standard set in 1949 has been maintained but no improvement can be noted apart from the re-introduction of certain activities in Secondary Grammar Schools, which had to be abandoned during the early days of the war. The playing of inter-school competitions during evenings in Summer, and Saturday mornings in Winter has been a success, and the success is due entirely to the willingness of teacher members of the Stockport and District Schools Athletics Association to give their time in organising children's competitions.

(d) Swimming.

The average weekly attendance of children for swimming instruction increased during the year, and there was a marked improvement in the attendance of Junior girls. Fewer Senior girls visited the Baths. 2,550 certificates were gained by boys and girls, and of these 1,647 were Learners, Elementary and Intermediate Certificates. This denotes an increase in the number of children learning to swim.

**XII.—CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS,
SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS AND
VOLUNTARY BODIES.****(a) Co-operation of Parents.****(i) Attendance at the Periodic Medical Inspections.**

Parents attended at the examination of 3,348 pupils out of 6,361 who were inspected at the Periodic Medical Inspections. Parents appreciate the value of being present at the first inspection of their children and in most cases where the parent fails to attend it is because they go out to work or are indisposed. Very often they arrange for a relative or neighbour to attend in their stead. There is a progressive falling off in the attendance of parents at the second, third and fourth inspections. This is regrettable. However, if a child whose parent has not attended the examination is found to have a defect requiring attention, a letter is sent to the parent informing him of this, and advising him of what action he should take.

(ii) Attendance at Consultation and Specialist Clinics.

The majority of parents attend with their children at these clinics. This provides the Medical Officer not only with an opportunity of getting an adequate history, but also to indicate the appropriate line of treatment to the parent.

(b) Co-operation of Teachers.**(i) Medical and Dental Inspection.**

A considerable amount of work devolves upon the teaching staff in preparing for a Medical or Dental Inspection, and as not all schools possess a Medical Inspection Room, the actual inspection often involves some re-arrangement of the classes in order that a room may be freed for the visiting Medical or Dental Officer. The teachers have co-operated well and the smooth running of the inspection has in no small measure depended on their willing co-operation.

(ii) Following Up.

Head Teachers are given the names of those children at their school who have defects that require attention. Thanks are due to them for the good work they do in ensuring that these children receive the attention they need.

(iii) Medical and Dental Treatment.

Most of the children who attend the Minor Ailments Clinics are referred for treatment by the Head Teachers. Children requiring dental treatment must attend with their parents, and Head Teachers inform the parents of the facilities available at the Dental Clinic.

(c) Co-operation of School Attendance Officers.

The Staff of the School Attendance Department continues to do valuable work, and close contact is maintained with this Department.

(d) Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

The Department is very much indebted to the various Voluntary Bodies for their work, and desires to place on record its appreciation.

(i) The G. W. Cookson Bequest.

The G. W. Cookson Bequest (vested in the Mayor of Stockport) provided an outing for poor children. Six hundred children were taken for a drive through Cheshire finishing at Lyme Hall, where tea was served, followed by sports. The Senior Welfare Officer organised the outing, and was assisted by the Staffs of the Central School Clinic and Education Department.

(ii) The Stockport Auxiliary of the Cripples' Help Society.

This organisation provided a visit to the Circus at Belle Vue in January and a day's outing to Fleetwood in the summer months, for cripples of the town, many of whom are children of school age.

(iii) The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Details of 14 cases were referred to this Society for investigation and report. Four of the Society's cases reported by the Education Department resulted in prosecutions and were supported by the School Health Service, and steps were taken through the Juvenile Court for the future welfare of the children concerned.

(iv) The Women's Voluntary Service.

The local branch of the Women's Voluntary Service has been most helpful in providing items of clothing in cases where the plight of necessitous children has been brought to its notice.

XIII.—BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

(a) Examinations of Children for a Disability of Mind as Prescribed by Regulation 2 (a) of the Reports to Local Authorities (Records) Regulations, 1945.**Recommendations :—**

(i) Education in an ordinary school	40
(ii) Education in an ordinary school with special educational treatment as					
An educationally subnormal pupil	37
A maladjusted pupil					
(a) Without residential care	35
(b) With residential care	Nil

(iii) Education in a Special School for Educationally Subnormal pupils							
Day	33
Boarding	16
(iv) Education in a special school for maladjusted children							
Day	2
Boarding	Nil
(v) Education in a Special school for another category of handicapped pupils, e.g. blind, deaf, epileptic, etc.							
Day	Nil
Boarding	3
(vi) Report to the Local Authority for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts under							
Subsection 3..	6
Subsection 5..	3
of Section 57 Education Act, 1944							
(vii) Other recommendations							
	26
							201

In addition, two boys were re-examined prior to leaving Taxal Lodge Special Residential School for Educationally Subnormal Pupils, on reaching the age of 16 years.

(b) Admissions to Special Residential Schools and Hospitals.

(i) Delicate and Physically Handicapped Pupils.

One boy was admitted to, and two boys were discharged from the Children's Convalescent Home, West Kirby.

Eight cases (three girls and five boys) were admitted to the Children's Orthopaedic Hospital, Dale Road, Marple, and four cases (two girls and two boys) were discharged from the Hospital.

(ii) Deaf Pupils.

One girl was admitted to, and two boys were discharged from the Royal Residential Schools for the Deaf, Old Trafford, Manchester.

(iii) Heart Pupils.

One girl was admitted to the Children's Heart Home, Lancing, Sussex.

One girl was admitted to the Bradstock Lockett School of Recovery, Southport.

(iv) Educationally Subnormal Pupils.

One boy was admitted to the Howard Home School, Cardington Road, Bedford.

Four girls were discharged from Allerton Priory Roman Catholic School, Liverpool.

Six boys were admitted to, and three boys were discharged from Taxal Lodge Special Residential School for Educationally Subnormal Pupils.

(v) Maladjusted Pupils.

One boy was discharged from Chaigeley School, Thelwall.

XIV.—FULL-TIME COURSES OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR BLIND, DEAF, DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC STUDENTS.

(a) General.

One girl was discharged from the School of Stitchery and Lace, Bookham, Surrey.

One girl is at the Henry Worrall Training Schools.

XV.—SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

(a) Longfield Open Air School, Mauldeth Road, Heaton Mersey.

Accommodation—1st January—6th September	60
7th September—31st December	90
Number on Roll	90
Percentage Attendance	77.9

Number of children discharged during the year :—

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Group 1.—Cured	14	16	30
Group 2.—Improved	10	9	19
Group 3.—Withdrawn by Parents	—	—	—
Group 4.—Discharged for further medical treatment	1	—	1

General Classification of defects (end of year) :—

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Asthma	5	4	9
Bronchitis	6	4	10
Bronchiectasis	—	2	2
Cervical Adenitis	1	2	3
Cœliac Disease	1	1	2
Congenital abnormality of Bladder	1	—	1
Debility	18	22	40
Epilepsy	1	1	2
Heart Disease (Congenital)	—	1	1
Heart Disease (Organic)	1	3	4
Rheumatic Endocarditis	1	2	3
Rheumatism	1	1	2
Rickets	1	—	1
Spastic Paralysis	2	1	3
Tuberculous Abdomen	1	—	1
Tuberculous Hip (old)	3	—	3
Tuberculous Peritonitis	1	—	1
Tuberculous Spine	1	1	2
	45	45	90

(b) Taxal Lodge Special Residential School for Educationally Subnormal Pupils, Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire.

Number on Roll—1st January—30th September	..	30 boys
September—December	..	31 boys

Six boys were admitted to the school during the year.

Three boys were discharged from the school during the year.

(c) Special Class at St. Peter's C.E. School.

Being a Primary School, only children below the age of 12 years can receive special education here.

Number on Roll	30
I.Q. Range	55%—85%

XVI.—NURSERY SCHOOLS.

The number of children accommodated at the Nursery Schools are shown below :—

Reddish :	3, Midland Road	..	From two to five years	..	50
Edgeley :	Hollywood Park School		From two to five years	..	50
Portwood :	Avenue Street	..	From two to five years	..	50
Adswold :	Arnfield Road	..	From two to five years	..	50
Belmont :	Grafton Street	..	From two to five years	..	50

XVII.—HIGH SCHOOLS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

(a) Medical Inspection.

The Local Education Authority maintains four Secondary Schools of the Grammar School type and five Secondary Schools of the Modern type, and a Secondary Technical School at Pendlebury Hall.

An annual Periodic Medical Inspection is carried out at these schools, the pupils being examined in their 15th year and annually thereafter if they remain at school. All pupils found to have defects are re-examined at school from time to time. Details of the number of pupils who were examined at these schools during the year are as follows :—

Stockport Secondary Technical School for Boys	80
Stockport College (Junior Commercial Class)	30
Fylde Lodge High School	145
Greek Street High School	141
Stockport School	143

(b) Dental Inspection.

No Dental Inspection was carried out at High Schools during the year.

(c) Following Up and Medical Treatment.

All pupils in whom defects are discovered are referred for the necessary treatment and are re-inspected each time the School Medical Officer visits the school.

XVIII.—MISCELLANEOUS.**(a) Youth Employment Exchange and Bureau and the School Health Service.**

The Supervisor of the Youth Employment Exchange and Bureau reports as follows :—

(i) General.

The close liaison between the School Health Service and the Youth Employment Service has been maintained as in former years.

(ii) School Leaving Cards.

The information recorded on the Final School Medical Reports is a valuable aid to the Staff of the Youth Employment Bureau when considering the suitability of the type of work desired by young people about to enter industry. In special cases, where it is indicated by the School Medical Officer that certain types of employment would be injurious to the health of the young worker, it ensures that the necessary protective measures are taken, when considering the submission of young persons to industrial employment.

(iii) Medical Certificates.

Eleven children were given Medical Certificates under the “Employment of Children in Entertainments Rules, 1933.”

(iv) Employment of Children.

Street Trading and Employment of Children.—No proceedings were instituted during the year.

Employment of School Children.—399 Medical and 11 Entertainment Certificates were issued during the year.

XIX—STATISTICAL TABLES

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1950

TABLE I.**Medical Inspection of Pupils attending Maintained
Primary and Secondary Schools
(Including Special Schools)****A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS**

Number of Inspections in the Prescribed Groups:	Year	1949	1950
Entrants	1,641	1,456
Second Age Group	1,296	1,526
Third Age Group	1,115	1,287
	Total ..	4,052	4,269
Number of other Periodic Inspections	2,143	2,092
	Grand Total	6,195	6,361

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	4,499	4,378
Number of Re-Inspections	8,909	7,665
	13,408	12,043

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT

Number of individual pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

<i>Group</i>	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i>	<i>For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIA</i>	<i>Total individual pupils</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	9	411	420
Second Age Group	52	331	383
Third Age Group	56	266	322
Total (prescribed groups)	117	1008	1,125
Other Periodic Inspections	81	422	503
Grand Total ..	198	1,430	1,628

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

TABLE II

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	110	101	—	—
5	Eyes—				
	a. Vision ..	207	363	—	1
	b. Squint ..	80	148	—	—
	c. Other ..	78	356	—	1
6	Ears—				
	a. Hearing ..	62	75	—	—
	b. Otitis Media	11	50	—	—
	c. Other ..	40	52	—	1
7	Nose or Throat ..	363	1,036	—	—
8	Speech	54	83	—	—
9	Cervical Glands	18	139	—	—
10	Heart and Circulation	55	245	—	—
11	Lungs	75	252	—	—
12	Developmental—				
	a. Hernia ..	20	24	—	—
	b. Other ..	8	21	—	—
13	Orthopædic— ..				
	a. Posture ..	86	174	—	—
	b. Flat foot ..	34	43	—	—
	c. Other ..	172	332	—	—
14	Nervous system				
	a. Epilepsy ..	13	5	—	—
	b. Other ..	15	61	—	—
15	Psychological—				
	a. Development	25	32	—	—
	b. Stability ..	39	34	—	—
16	Other	700	981	—	10

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	No. of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2	No.	% of col. 2
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	1456	281	19.30	1145	78.65	30	2.05
2nd Age Group ..	1526	301	19.73	1174	76.93	51	3.34
3rd Age Group ..	1287	239	18.57	1018	79.10	30	2.33
Other Periodic Inspections ..	2092	390	18.64	1632	78.01	70	3.35
Total ..	6361	1211	19.04	4969	78.12	181	2.84

TABLE III

Infestation with Vermin

- (i) Total number of examinations in the Schools by School Nurses 81,445
- (ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested 2,412
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944).. .. . 1,375
- (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944).. .. . 133

TABLE IV.
TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

GROUP 1.—Diseases of the skin (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	—	—
(ii) Body	1	—
Scabies	5	—
Impetigo	46	—
Other skin diseases	218	—
Total ..	270	—

GROUP 2.—Eye diseases, defective vision and squint.

	Number of cases dealt with	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	173	Estimated 400
Errors of Refraction (including squint) ..	547	1,000
Total ..	720	1,400
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		Estimated
(a) Prescribed	443	175
(b) Obtained	396	175
Total ..	839	350

GROUP 3.—Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	390	approx. 310
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	3	—
Received other forms of treatment ..	69	—
Total ..	462	310

TABLE IV—*continued.***GROUP 4.—Orthopædic and Postural Defects.**

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	14	
(b) Number treated otherwise, <i>e.g.</i> , in clinics or out-patient departments..	By the Authority	Otherwise
	130	—

GROUP 5.—Child Guidance Treatment.

	Number of cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	—	32

GROUP 6.—Speech Therapy.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	—	3

GROUP 7.—Other Treatment Given.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments ..	1,236	—
(b) Other (specify)		
1 Audiometric Tests	30	—
2 Chiropody	903	—
Total ..	2,169	—

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY.

(1) Number of Pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers.

(a) Periodic Age-Groups.

AGE	4	5	6	7	8	8	10	11	
Number	89	296	344	356	368	356	359	342	
AGE	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Number	315	265	219	23	6	—	—	3338

(b) Specials 2,620

(c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials) 5,958

(2) Number found to require treatment 5,054

(3) Number actually treated 4,029

(4) Attendances made by pupils for treatment 5,672

(5) Half-days devoted to :—

Inspection	24
Treatment	461
Total	..		485

(6) Fillings :—

Permanent teeth	..	941
Temporary teeth	..	668
Total	..	1,609

(7) Extractions :—

Permanent Teeth	..	830
Temporary Teeth	..	5,438
Total	..	6,268

(8) Administration of
general anæsthetics
for extraction 672

(9) Other operations :—

Permanent teeth	..	1,196
Temporary teeth	..	12
Total	..	1,208